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WORLD HOG AND PORK PROSPECTS

Quarterly Summary

Hog prices on domestic markets were steady during January, and a sharp advance occurred in early February, despite continued large slaughter supplies of hogs and other livestock. Prices of hogs in Germany declined during January, but higher prices were paid on Canadian markets. In the United Kingdom prices of bacon and hams advanced because of restricted imported supplies, but British lard prices weakened during the month. Prices of cured pork and lard in the United States were steady to higher in January.

Bacon imports into the United Kingdom during the last 3 months of 1933 were 28 percent smaller than in that period in 1932, but even with this reduction several important countries shipped larger quantities to Great Britain than were allocated to them under quota agreements. Ham imports during the same months of 1933 were also reduced, but not nearly so much as were imports of bacon. The total quota for British imports of bacon and hams which will prevail after March 1, 1934 has not yet been determined.

United States exports of both pork and lard during December were larger than in the corresponding month a year earlier. For the entire year 1933, lard exports were the largest since 1930, and shipments of lard to the United Kingdom during the year were the second largest on record. Exports of lard to Germany in 1933 were smaller than in 1932. Pork exports for the year were somewhat larger than in 1932, but they were relatively small compared with most other post-war years.

United States

Despite the fact that slaughter supplies of hogs and other livestock were relatively large in January, hog prices were steady to higher during the month. In early February, market receipts of hogs were materially reduced

and prices advanced sharply, the top price at Chicago reaching $4.85, the highest since last October. A stronger consumer demand for meats and the relatively large purchases of hogs for the account of the Federal Surplus Relief Corporation contributed greatly to the higher prices in January and early February.

The average price of hogs at Chicago for January was $3.41 per 100 pounds compared with $3.25 in December and $3.12 in January 1933. The average price for the week ended February 10, however, was $4.20 the highest average for any week since mid-November. The advance in prices in early February was much greater on hogs weighing under 250 pounds than on heavier weight hogs. Prices also tended to rise more at Chicago and points eastward than at markets west of Chicago. Some adjustment to this uneven advance both as to weights of hogs and to markets probably will occur before the end of the present month. The processing tax on hog slaughter, which was levied in early November 1933 in connection with the hog production control program of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration, was raised from $1.00 per 100 pounds to $1.50 effective February 1, 1934. A further increase in this tax to $2.25 on March 1, 1934 has been announced.

Inspected slaughter of hogs in January totaling 5,391,000 head was 14.7 percent larger than that of January 1933, and it was second largest slaughter for the month since 1925. The increase in slaughter supplies from December to January, amounting to 861,000 head or 19 percent, also was relatively large. Inspected slaughter for the first 4 months of the current marketing year, October 1933 to January 1934, which amounted to 17,480,000 was 813,000 head, or 4.9 percent larger than in the corresponding months of 1932-33.

Corn prices averaged somewhat higher in January than in December. The average price of No. 3 Yellow corn at Chicago was 49.7 cents per bushel compared with 46.5 cents in December and 23.6 cents in January 1932. The hog-corn price ratio in the North Central States, as of January 15, was 7.6 which was about the same as the very low ratio reached in December, but it was much lower than the ratio of 16.6 as of January 15, 1933. The decline in the ratio as compared with a year earlier has been greater in the West North Central States than in East North Central States. The advance in hog prices in late January and early February was not accompanied by a similar advance in corn prices; consequently the ratio of hog prices to corn prices in early February was higher than at any time since October, but it was still below average.

Largely as a result of the very unfavorable relationship between hog prices and corn prices and the short supplies of corn available for feeding the average weight of hogs slaughtered has declined considerably during the last 3 months. Average weights of hogs received at the seven principal markets in January were materially lighter than a year ago. The decrease in weights has been somewhat greater at markets serving the Western Corn Belt where the hog-corn price ratio in recent months has been relatively lower compared with last year than in other areas.

Wholesale prices of fresh pork were steady to lower during January, but advanced sharply in early February. Smaller supplies of hogs and the sharp drop in temperatures in many sections along with increased government purchases of hogs which greatly curtailed supplies of fresh pork for regular trade channels were the chief factors responsible for this advance. Prices

of cured pork and lard were steady to higher in January. The composite wholesale price of hog products in New York averaged $11.11 per 100 pounds in January compared with $11.09 in December and $9.32 in January 1933.

Exports of both pork and lard were larger in December 1933 than in the corresponding month a year earlier. The increase in pork exports, however, was largely the result of larger exports of fresh and frozen pork, since cured pork exports in December were not greatly different from those of a year earlier. The quantity of such fresh and frozen shipments, however, remains relatively small. The export movement of total pork in December although larger than in that month in 1932 was 23 percent smaller than in November.

Shipments of hams and shoulders in December totaling 4,283,000 pounds were slightly smaller than in December 1932, but they were considerably smaller than in November. Exports of these cuts during the month to the United Kingdom, the principal outlet, amounted to 3,325,000 pounds, which was only about one half as large as in November. Since exports of hams and shoulders to Great Britain were relatively large in October and November, the quota restrictions to bacon and ham imports probably made necessary a decrease in the takings of these products during December from the United States. Bacon exports during December amounting to 2,250,000 pounds were somewhat larger than in December a year earlier, but they were smaller than in November. Shipments of bacon to each of the various importing countries during December were relatively small; Germany was the largest buyer.

Lard exports in December amounted to 55,311,000 pounds which was about 15 percent larger than in November and 10 percent greater than in December 1932. Nearly all of the increase in lard shipments during December compared both with the preceding month and with a year earlier was in the movement to the United Kingdom. Exports to that country in December of 31,197,000 pounds were the third largest for any month during the last 10 years. Lard shipments to Germany during the month amounted to 8,790,000 pounds, which was considerably smaller than in the preceding month or in December 1932. For the 3 months, October to December 1933, exports of lard totaling 153,291,000 pounds, were the largest for those months since 1929, and they were 6 percent larger than in the corresponding months of 1932.

Total exports of lard for the calendar year 1933 amounting to 584,000,000 pounds were about 6 percent larger than in 1932, and they were the largest since 1930. Lard exports to the United Kingdom in 1933 totaling 297,000,000 pounds were the largest since 1918, and except for 1918, were the largest on record. Exports to Germany of 127,000,000 pounds were smaller than in 1932. Pork exports during 1933 were about 22 percent larger than in 1932, but they were relatively small compared with those of most other post-war years. A figure showing changes in United States exports of pork and lard from 1900 to date appears on the last page of this publication. Shipments of pork and lard to non-contiguous territories have been included with exports in the figures used for this figure.

A statistical summary of the hog situation for the first quarter of the 1933-34 hog marketing year, October to December 1933, with comparisons, appears on page 5 . Inspected slaughter of hogs from October to December 1933, was slightly larger than in that period a year ago, but because of the reduction in the average dressed weight, the total production of pork,

including lard, was about 2 percent smaller. Total storage holdings of pork and lard declined from October 1 to the end of December, but the effect of this net out-of-storage movement on the movement into domestic consumption was partly offset by the increase in exports of pork and lard. Apparent domestic consumption of hog products during the October to December period was about 1 percent less than in those months in 1932. Production of lard per 100 pounds of hogs slaughtered was smaller during the first quarter of the current marketing year than in the same period a year ago, and with a slight decrease in total live weight, lard production under Federal inspection was about 3 percent less than last year. Storage stocks of lard declined about 60,000,000 pounds or 8 percent from October 1, 1933 to January 1, 1934. Exports of lard from October to December 1933, were about 33,000,000 pounds larger than in the corresponding months of 1932, but because of the large out-of-storage movement the apparent domestic consumption of lard was increased about 2 percent compared with last year.

Inspected hog slaughter during the winter marketing season thus far has been somewhat larger than was anticipated earlier, in view of the emergency slaughter of some 6,200,000 pigs last summer under the hog production control program of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration. Because of the short corn crop and the relatively unfavorable hog-corn price ratio the market movement of hogs during the present winter has been earlier than a year ago, as indicated by the lighter weights of hogs marketed. With this earlier market movement and the emergency pig slaughter, it seems probable that the number as well as the proportion of hogs from the pig crop of the preceding spring yet to be marketed is now much smaller than a year ago. A considerable reduction in slaughter supplies of hogs during the remainder of the winter compared with those of last year, therefore, is expected. It should be recognized, however, that marketings of fall pigs are also likely to be earlier than usual, and the decrease in slaughter supplies during the next 3 or 4 months may be less than otherwise because of this earlier movement of such pigs. Consumer demand for hog products apparently is now much stronger than a year ago, and with a substantial reduction in slaughter supplies in prospect for the remainder of the winter season, some advance in hog prices may occur.

United States: Statistical summary of hog and hog products situation, October-December, 1932-33, with comparisons

Item	Unit	5-year average 1927-28 to 1931-32	1931-32	1932-33	1932-33 as percentage of 5-year average	1932-33 as percentage of 1931-32
Hogs -						
Inspected slaughter...	no.	12,978,731	11,966,494	12,088,645	93.14	101.02
Carcasses condemned...	"	35,217	30,200	35,966	102.13	119.09
Average live weight...	lb.	223.30	226.17	223.12	99.92	98.65
Average dressed weight	"	167.57	171.01	167.84	100.16	98.15
Total dressed weight (excl. condemned) ...	1,000 lbs.	2,168,956	2,041,195	2,022,869	93.26	99.10
Storage Oct. 1, beginning of marketing year:						
Fresh pork	"	95,107	78,589	128,497	135.11	163.51
Cured pork	"	412,123	419,664	501,940	121.79	119.61
Lard	"	96,053	70,656	192,061	199.95	271.83
Total	"	603,283	568,909	822,498	136.34	144.57
Imports:						
Fresh pork	"	565	364	58	10.27	15.93
Pork, pickled and preserved	"	1,141	932	482	42.24	51.72
Total	"	1,706	1,296	540	31.65	41.67
Available for consumption 1/	"	2,773,945	2,611,400	2,845,907	102.59	108.98
Exports:						
Pork	"	48,459	29,198	39,732	81.99	136.08
Lard	"	174,960	140,543	153,291	87.61	109.07
Total	"	223,419	169,741	193,023	86.40	113.72
Storage, Jan. 1, 1934:						
Fresh pork	"	132,687	101,793	129,794	97.82	127.51
Cured pork	"	440,588	389,057	497,529	112.92	127.88
Lard	"	62,212	41,088	132,297	212.66	321.98
Total	"	635,487	531,938	759,620	119.53	142.80
Apparent consumption 2/	"	1,915,039	1,909,721	1,893,264	98.86	99.14
Lard -						
Production -						
Per 100 lbs. live weight	lb.	14.50	14.98	14.58	100.55	97.33
Total	1,000 lbs.	420,114	405,470	393,169	93.59	96.97
Apparent consumption 3/	"	278,995	294,495	299,642	107.40	101.75
Hogs, average cost for slaughter	dolls	6.95	3.21	3.80	54.68	118.38

1/ Total dressed weight + imports + storage October 1, beginning of marketing year.

2/ Available for consumption - (exports + storage January 1, 1934).

3/ Production + storage October 1 beginning year - (exports + storage January 1, 1934)

United States: Total exports of hams and shoulders, by months, 1925-26 to 1933-34

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33	1933-34
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct. ..	14,494	10,847	7,632	4,747	7,580	5,259	5,628	5,064	5,745
Nov. ..	16,243	13,105	7,374	7,637	11,656	10,089	6,859	6,202	7,626
Dec. ..	19,827	12,675	9,905	8,518	6,957	5,825	4,162	4,569	4,283
Jan. ..	21,000	9,873	10,005	11,187	9,461	7,295	3,881	4,580	
Feb. ..	19,105	9,511	10,976	7,680	9,213	5,538	4,025	3,753	
Mar. ..	18,117	9,253	12,222	11,140	10,790	6,829	3,884	5,707	
Apr. ..	18,059	10,007	11,258	13,857	12,416	8,086	5,459	7,716	
May ..	16,682	13,092	11,390	11,246	13.845	9,969	7,516	6,508	
June ..	13,218	13,471	13,754	12,571	12,158	9,721	7,132	9,619	
July ..	13,512	13,158	13,557	12,621	13,779	9,071	8,310	9,359	
Aug. ..	15,972	8,215	13,402	10,849	10,841	6,623	4,123	7,531	
Sept...	11,425	11,123	6,681	8,478	6,432	5,037	5,066	6,152	
Total	197,654	134,330	128,156	120,531	125,128	89,342	66,045	76,760	

Compiled from the Monthly Summary of Foreign Commerce of the United States.

United States: Total lard exports, by months, 1925-26 to 1933-34

Month	1925-26	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33	1933-34
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct. ..	46,569	48,547	52,026	60,958	71,814	42,026	44,098	53,840	50,296
Nov. ..	40,918	44,968	50,894	69,263	84,440	43,588	36,000	36,344	47,784
Dec. ..	70,669	64,322	64,625	87,528	81,530	46,281	66,732	50,341	55,211
Jan. ..	78,796	61,395	72,754	92,262	75,187	69,825	60,343	79,026	
Feb. ..	66,599	51,615	82,448	67,896	67,577	69,559	67,287	58,264	
Mar. ..	65,989	54,814	83,496	72,745	67,625	59,420	43,773	48,113	
Apr. ..	64,919	69,991	58,625	60,168	51,201	45,605	36,612	39,180	
May ..	59,867	66,314	58,255	65,493	63,617	40,513	41,519	46,277	
June ..	57,614	68,445	55,495	68,266	57,698	38,395	45,807	38,213	
July ..	47,117	48,379	54,752	66,440	52,442	34,697	35,623	36,128	
Aug. ..	55,475	51,919	52,284	57,077	50,282	35,278	35,524	36,195	
Sept...	62,866	61,282	47,614	59,737	38,493	38,174	45,123	49,020	
Total	717,398	691,991	733,268	827,833	761,906	563,361	558,441	571,495	

Compiled from Monthly Summary of Foreign Commerce of the United States.

Canada

The upward trend in bacon hog prices on Canadian markets continued throughout January. The average price at Toronto for the week ended February 1, was $9.69 per 100 pounds, American currency, compared with $7.10 for the week ended January 4. For the 5 weeks ended February 1 the average price was $8.14 compared with $3.28 for the same period last year and the monthly average price of $6.52 for December 1933. The yearly average price for 1933 was $5.20 compared with $4.14 in 1932 and $7.23 in 1931. Western markets made the greatest improvement during the 12 months of 1933.

The price advance of recent months has been brought about by moderate supplies and the favorable conditions for export of bacon to the British market. However, the advance is not expected to continue indefinitely, states the Canadian Government Livestock and Meat Trade Review.

Gradings of hogs at stockyards and packing plants for the 5 weeks ended February 1 amounted to 311,357 head and were slightly in excess of those for the same period last year. Hog numbers in June 1933 were reported at only 3,800,700 head or 18 percent below the number at the same date of 1932 and were lower than they have been since 1920. Gradings at stockyards and packing plants during the last half of the year amounted to 1,509,000 head compared with 1,644,000 during the first half, a decrease of 10 percent. There was also a reduction in the last half of 1932 but in 1931 gradings during the last half of the year showed an increase of 23 percent above those for the first half of the year.

Notwithstanding the reduced hog numbers in 1933, exports of bacon and hams have increased and are now considerably greater than in each of the 6 years 1927-1932. The exports of bacon and hams for the year 1933 were over twice as large as those for 1932, amounting to 73,300,000 pounds, 98 percent of which went to the British market. In addition 6,000,000 pounds of other kinds of pork was exported and about 3,000,000 pounds of lard. Both of these last items were only about half as large as they were last year.

In 1932 pork production in Canada was the largest on record, reaching 1,008,000,000 pounds, 96 percent of which was consumed at home, the per capita consumption amounting to 91.79 pounds.

United Kingdom and Irish Free State

Reduced supplies rather than any great improvement in demand were the reasons for the sharp advance in January prices of most descriptions of bacon, Meat Specialist H. C. Reed at London reports. From December 29 to January 27, top sterling prices for continental bacon advanced 23 percent. Expressed in dollar equivalents based on importer-to-wholesaler quotations at Liverpool, the January average price of Danish Wiltshire sides advanced to $19.67 per 100 pounds against $8.77 a year earlier. Canadian green sides were up to $17.46 against $6.99 for January 1933. The advance in American green bellies was less marked than in the other lines mentioned, but the current average of $14.52 was more than double the comparable 1933 figure. Sterling prices in January 1934 ranged from about 40 percent above the January 1933 prices of American green bellies to 90 percent higher for Latvian Wiltshire sides. Canadian, Danish and Dutch Wiltshires were 77, 57 and 74 percent respectively above the 1933 price positions for sterling.

The overshipping of quota amounts in November and December necessitated the reduced supplies of continental bacon in January. Denmark and Lithuania, however, continued to ship over-supplies in January, while the monor supplying non-quota countries, especially Germany, continued to send amounts far in excess of those expected. Total receipts from the latter countries were expected to reach only 1,680,000 pounds for the period November 10 - February 28, 1933-34. In the 8 weeks ended January 4, actual receipts totaled 4,455,000 pounds. So far, no restrictive action has been taken. Further reductions in all continental supplies will have to take place if shipments are to be kept within the quota for the period ending February 28. It would appear that the shifting of British hogs from bacon contracts to the more lucrative pork market, has made domestic supplies shorter than expected. It is evident that British curers are unable to supply British bacon of desirable quality in sufficient quantity to make good the deficit in continental supplies.

The better grades of British bacon have shown a price advance approximating that of continental, but inferior domestic bacon continues to sell at a discount. The advance in American clear bellies, in short supply, has not been in keeping with that of Wiltshires. With the recent price advances, however, the market is very strong, and prospective supplies indicate continued strength. Total bacon imports in December, at about 67,000,000 pounds, were unusually small for the post-war period, and would have been even smaller were it not for the heavy increase in receipts from Canada. Total receipts from that source for October-December, the first 3 months of the current marketing season, reached 19,834,000 pounds against only 2,687,000 pounds in the comparable period of last season. Total bacon imports from all sources for the three 1933 months indicated were 28.3 percent smaller than those of a year earlier.

The upward movement in ham prices during January brought the Liverpool average up to $19.85 per 100 pounds against $8.16 a year earlier. The advance over last year in dollar values is based on an advance of 50 percent in sterling, plus the exchange relationships. Short supplies have been an important factor in the current price advance. The strong market now prevailing is expected to continue in view of the future supply situation. With the Argentine quota to February 28 taken up and much of the American allotment used by January 4, further reductions in supplies may be expected during the current month. Total imports of ham into Great Britain for the first 3 months of the current season, at about 21,000,000 pounds, were about 1,000,000 pounds under the corresponding figure for last season to December 31.

The British Pig Marketing Board announces that in March and April the contract price for bacon hogs in Great Britain will be 12 shillings 6 pence per score of 20 pounds, according to Agricultural Attache E. A. Foley at London. The new price represents an advance of 6 pence over the price now prevailing, and is equivalent to 15.4 cents per pound at current rates of exchange. The new rate is to be used in making contracts between hog producers and bacon curers during the first 2 months of the period beginning March 1. So far, no information is available regarding the volume of home produced bacon which may be expected to materialize after March 1.

The actual quantities allocated to exporting countries for shipment to Great Britain under the quota cannot be determined until contracts by British producers are made for the last 10 months of 1934. It is now felt that a reduction in the number of hogs under contract is to be expected. Reasons given are (1) the more than seasonal advance in prices of porkers; (2) the necessity of making additional levies on the farmers' returns in order to make good the Bacon Board's indemnifying loan to curers, and (3) the high bacon hog production costs of marginal producers.

United Kingdom: Arrivals of Wiltshire sides at London from continental countries, by weeks, 1933-34 1/

Week ended	Danish at all ports	At London					Canadian at all ports
		Danish	Swedish	Dutch	Polish	Lithuanian	
	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales	Bales
Season 1933-34							
Oct. 6	45,667	25,601	2,303	3,333	4,607	3,251	5,136
13	44,407	25,063	2,040	4,549	4,481	3,649	4,049
20	46,211	25,709	1,843	4,659	4,704	4,861	4,844
27	44,502	24,152	2,202	2,893	4,545	4,243	5,851
Nov. 3	44,164	23,714	1,986	3,313	5,003	3,653	4,889
10	43,761	23,299	3,824	2,926	4,950	3,335	4,823
17	43,852	23,731	1,726	2,847	4,372	2,936	5,176
24	42,868	22,452	1,542	3,433	4,228	2,992	5,141
Dec. 1	42,014	22,238	1,559	2,504	3,721	2,957	5,770
8	41,193	22,123	1,517	1,983	3,768	2,729	5,319
15	50,143	29,378	2,577	2,244	4,568	3,348	5,196
22	32,755	16,984	1,522	2,354	3,808	3,496	6,024
29	31,212	16,765	1,369	731	3,267	3,076	6,639
Jan. 5	35,243	19,207	1,106	2,553	1,844	2,887	7,372
12	35,577	19,239	1,781	1,513	4,211	2,976	6,878
19	36,692	19,578	1,681	1,898	3,280	2,479	6,659
26	35,230	18,003	1,352	1,954	3,507	2,750	6,459
Totals to date: 1933-34	695,491	377,236	31,930	45,667	68,864	55,618	96,225
1932-33	1,028,998	565,122	31,269	112,796	104,922	93,875	14,819

Transmitted by H. E. Reed, Meat and Wool Specialist at London, Foreign Agricultural Service.

1/ London Provision Exchange. Sides are packed 4 or 6 to the bale, according to weight of sides. The most popular bale is that carrying 4 sides with the total weight ranging 220-260 pounds.

Receipts of fat hogs on 41 markets in England and Wales for the first 4 weeks of 1934 were slightly larger than for the same period of last year. Porkers have comprised the bulk of the offerings, the heavier receipts causing porker prices to ease slightly from the high level reached late in December. Baconers have been in very light supply in the open market, but offerings of feeder pigs have increased in view of the attractive prices now being paid. January supplies of British and Irish fresh pork at London central markets, at about 7,000,000 pounds, were smaller than supplies of a

year earlier. Frozen pork supplies from the United States were materially increased in January and December, with the latter month's imports at record levels despite a reduction in receipts from New Zealand. Heavy supplies of frozen pork and ample supplies of fresh pork are in prospect for the balance of the season. Prices have had an easier tendency in view of the supply situation.

The continued easier tendency in lard prices brought the January average of American refined lard at Liverpool down to $6.91 per 100 pounds. That figure is still slightly higher than the dollar value in January 1933, but the current sterling values are about 35 percent lower than those of a year ago. Liverpool lard stocks on February 1, 1934, at over 10,000,000 pounds, were more than three times larger than those of a year earlier, and the largest for any month since May 1929. Since last July, British monthly imports of lard have been consistently larger than imports of a year earlier. For the October-December period of the 1933-34 marketing season, such imports reached a total of 74,563,000 pounds against 58,762,000 pounds a year earlier. The current figures are second only to the similar months of the 1930-31 season. Certain elements in the British trade have signified their interest in control over the imports of lard.

United Kingdom: Bacon imports from Denmark, by months, 1926-27 to 1933-34

Month	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33	1933-34
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	34,557	50,090	50,703	47,486	70,906	71,154	75,730	47,545
Nov.	38,931	50,257	48,063	48,525	61,433	72,521	70,445	44,588
Dec.	40,194	52,244	45,580	53,490	81,294	77,467	59,332	37,159
Jan.	41,803	54,975	48,717	48,406	66,819	73,317	57,307	
Feb.	42,436	53,942	41,508	44,439	67,246	75,213	50,495	
Mar.	47,526	54,675	41,985	51,870	65,505	88,046	59,092	
Apr.	42,993	52,745	44,031	46,204	63,224	76,032	51,023	
May	44,205	51,109	46,758	56,206	67,190	48,717	59,195	
June	51,795	51,636	41,886	54,456	66,161	82,653	55,517	
July	50,710	44,562	46,570	55,213	68,704	72,174	53,125	
Aug.	46,941	48,924	48,121	55,066	68,094	70,019	53,152	
Sept.	48,143	42,633	48,350	59,751	67,893	67,587	48,558	
Total	530,234	609,792	552,272	621,112	814,469	883,900	692,971	

Compiled from Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom.

United Kingdom: Total bacon imports, by months, 1926-27 to 1933-34

Month	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33	1933-34
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	73,275	85,552	82,378	72,402	95,809	109,051	114,310	83,272
Nov.	76,138	79,579	79,297	74,868	86,316	105,372	114,458	81,117
Dec.	78,867	80,679	76,771	85,603	112,267	109,857	92,817	66,612
Jan.	75,371	82,344	88,092	74,801	95,273	101,159	96,602	
Feb.	69,874	85,153	68,612	73,721	99,645	112,538	78,231	
Mar.	82,487	87,041	68,923	84,631	93,406	125,818	95,152	
Apr.	71,277	83,815	73,126	75,096	99,464	108,150	85,173	
May	76,630	88,759	87,845	84,615	108,136	89,052	92,804	
June	88,348	86,387	71,894	83,277	109,080	111,194	91,029	
July	84,105	79,212	80,360	85,457	105,607	102,004	87,203	
Aug.	74,480	86,862	82,290	84,758	106,567	104,395	83,361	
Sept.	80,159	71,796	73,505	88,206	105,978	101,571	83,069	
Total	931,011	997,179	933,093	967,435	1,218,528	1,280,161	1,114,209	

Compiled from Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom.

United Kingdom: Total ham imports, by months, 1926-27 to 1933-34

Month	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33	1933-34
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	6,929	7,802	6,484	8,105	5,792	7,217	7,497	6,992
Nov.	8,762	5,836	6,782	8,125	5,755	7,550	7,998	7,932
Dec.	11,318	7,817	7,339	9,347	10,111	8,596	6,578	6,155
Jan.	8,847	6,896	8,788	7,920	7,101	4,602	7,100	
Feb.	6,513	9,062	8,232	7,989	6,507	5,146	5,556	
Mar.	6,910	9,264	6,828	8,601	5,337	6,530	5,981	
Apr.	6,523	7,993	8,981	9,539	7,597	5,764	7,874	
May	9,208	9,334	14,136	12,298	9,204	9,664	10,737	
June	12,410	10,782	10,499	10,983	9,773	8,466	9,207	
July	12,034	11,404	12,042	14,391	11,165	11,661	13,568	
Aug.	8,282	13,594	12,073	12,024	7,429	9,091	8,489	
Sept.	8,902	7,505	8,073	7,236	5,613	6,978	9,267	
Total	106,638	107,289	110,257	116,558	91,384	91,265	99,802	

Compiled from Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom.

United Kingdom: Total lard imports, by months, 1926-27 to 1933-34

Month	1926-27	1927-28	1928-29	1929-30	1930-31	1931-32	1932-33	1933-34
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Oct.	21,569	17,360	18,079	21,844	22,897	17,329	19,799	25,407
Nov.	12,710	21,058	21,551	24,004	27,751	19,234	21,305	23,301
Dec.	13,772	22,351	17,480	27,160	27,270	21,276	17,658	25,855
Jan.	21,665	27,794	35,923	27,559	21,459	28,188	24,381	
Feb.	19,136	28,421	29,752	25,187	32,576	37,323	31,490	
Mar.	20,989	33,840	22,234	24,810	26,608	31,248	31,269	
Apr.	27,032	23,081	21,612	18,218	25,276	11,805	22,788	
May	24,264	24,398	26,479	20,772	23,771	20,565	24,305	
June	28,564	19,596	20,498	21,078	27,586	25,890	25,026	
July	26,006	24,667	25,977	31,801	28,538	22,221	28,673	
Aug.	17,571	21,844	21,204	20,438	25,001	16,477	31,403	
Sept.	22,360	13,346	16,899	12,976	17,022	18,556	29,484	
Total	255,638	277,756	277,688	275,847	322,777	270,112	307,581	

Compiled from Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom.

Continental Europe

The increased continental production of hogs indicated for 1934 is expected to be especially marked in such deficit countries as Germany and Czechoslovakia, according to Assistant Agricultural Attache D. F. Christy at Berlin. In exporting countries, however, further curtailment of production is anticipated in view of the continued shrinkage of export outlets. In some of the less important exporting countries, hog numbers actually increased during 1933 in view of the inability to export, primarily as a result of restrictions placed on the British bacon market. In all exporting countries the governments are faced with the necessity of disposing of accumulated surpluses. The situation has led to numerous reciprocal trade agreements, with the result that a large part of the continental trade in hogs and pork products is now being conducted along those lines.

Pork production on the Continent now appears to have been about 10 percent lower in 1933 than in 1932, according to available marketing data. Market supplies of hogs in the exporting countries are expected to be burdensome during the early part of 1934, but probably will show a reduction during the latter half of the year. In the deficit countries, particularly Germany, marketings are expected to be larger than in 1933, with the greatest increase expected after the middle of the year. In that period, however, hog production programs will be influenced by crop outturns which are not now expected to be as large as those of 1933. In general, the outlook for exports of American lard and pork continues unfavorable. In Germany, one of the important markets for lard, domestic production is increasing and consideration is being given additional measures to control imports.

Hogs: Slaughterings or marketings in specified European countries, annual 1932, and first 11 months 1932 and 1933

Country and description	Year 1932	First 11 months 1932	First 11 months 1933
	1,000 head	1,000 head	1,000 head
Denmark, in export slaughter houses	7,841	1/ 4,054	1/ 3,408
Germany, at 36 markets 2/	4,551	3/ 4,551	3/ 4,192
Poland, at 32 markets	1,085	4/ 909	4/ 853
Czechoslovakia, total	3,781	4/ 3,004	4/ 2,605
Austria 5/	1,042	1,042	1,053
Belgium, at principal slaughter houses	241	225	262
Holland, export slaughter	1,353	1,233	1,069
Sweden 6/	964	887	862
Norway 7/	281	4/ 216	4/ 242
Lithuania 8/	519	466	384
Total	21,658	16,587	14,930

Foreign Agricultural Service Division and the Division of Statistical and Historical Research. 1/ First 6 months. 2/ Constituted about 24 percent of total inspected slaughter in 1932. 3/ Year. 4/ 10 months. 5/ Hog marketings at St. Marx and the Grossmarkthallo, Vienna - (Formerly including only live pigs). 6/ Includes about 50 percent of total slaughterings. 7/ Includes about 90 percent of total slaughterings. 8/ Estimated on basis of weekly reports from export slaughter houses.

Countries important in British market supplies

The outstanding development in the Danish hog situation is the forced reduction in numbers resulting from continued curtailment of the British market outlet. Within 14 months Danish hog numbers were reduced about 20 percent, the total as of December 15, 1933 standing at 3,724,000 head. The reduction is evident in all classes of hogs, with an especially heavy reduction in the number of young pigs. In view of the very probable further reduction in the volume of British imports, it is unlikely that Danish hog numbers have been too drastically reduced. Because of the improved prices resulting from British market control activities, hog production in Denmark is still a profitable business, since the greater part of the hogs are raised for export. The price trend was generally upward in 1933 and early 1934, while feed costs have been fairly steady.

Measures taken to protect domestic grain producers involve an upward movement in import duties. Somewhat higher grain prices are anticipated, which may make hog production less profitable. It is anticipated, however, that grain prices will not be allowed to get too far out of line with respect to hog prices. Danish exports of bacon reached 647,000,000 pounds in the calendar year 1933, a reduction of about 27 percent below the comparable 1932 figures. Lard exports also declined 19 percent, amounting to 43,000,000 pounds in 1933. Exports of live hogs, on the other hand, reached 73,000 head last year against only 24,000 head in 1932.

Denmark: Number of hogs by classes at various dates, 1929 to 1933

Date	Boars 4 months and over	Brood sows: In farrow	Brood sows: Not in farrow	Brood sows: Total	Hogs 4 months and over	Pigs 2 to 4 months	Pigs under 2 months	Total
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands
July 15, 1929	19	310	124	434	776	1,285	1,104	3,618
July 15, 1930	24	390	190	580	1,011	1,602	1,655	4,872
Jan. 15, 1931	27	385	189	574	1,179	1,769	1,632	5,181
July 15, 1931	31	430	194	624	1,165	1,855	1,778	5,453
Jan. 15, 1932		355	195	550	1,320	1,932	1,655	5,457
June 20, 1932	29	336	157	493	1.198	1,688	1,478	4,886
Nov. 19, 1932	28	321	163	484	1,260	1,659	1,395	4,826
Jan. 23, 1933	28	308	166	474	1,140	1,480	1,421	4,543
Apr. 18, 1933	26	303	158	461	1,073	1,410	1,414	4,384
					Other hogs			
					132 lbs. & over	77 to 132 lbs.	Under 77 lbs.	Suckling pigs	Total
July 15, 1933	25	278	164	442	826	998	1,064	1,028	4,383
Oct. 14, 1933	24	244	161	405	825	951	1,075	916	4,196
Dec. 15, 1933	23	212	150	362	740	892	974	733	3,724

Division of Statistical and Historical Research. Compiled from Statistiske Efterretninger published by the Statistical Department of Denmark, December 29, 1933 and earlier issues.

Government hog control in Netherlands was followed by a reduction of almost 24 percent in the export slaughter figures for the first 11 months of 1933 as against the corresponding 1932 figures. The reduction resulting in an export slaughter figure of 1,069,000 head, all occurred in the period August-November 1933. It should be recalled, however, that export slaughter during the fall and winter months of 1932 were unusually heavy as a result of the Varkenscentrale's efforts to eliminate the heavy surplus on hand at that time. The price position of hogs improved steadily during 1933, the advance keeping well ahead of advances in feed prices through September. In more recent months, however, rising feed prices have materially reduced the profits in hog raising. Some advance in retail pork prices also occurred during 1933. Despite earlier reductions in numbers, however, hog supplies are apparently still burdensome. There has been some exporting of hogs to Russia in exchange for grain.

In Poland, a decline in numbers of young hogs as of June 30, 1933 was accompanied by a drop of 10 percent in slaughter for the first 10 months of that year against the corresponding 1932 period. There was some reduction also in the consumption of pork per capita during 1933. Bacon exports in the first 11 months of the year, practically all of which were consigned to the British market, reached only 83,165,000 pounds against 110,570,000 pounds in the same months of 1932. Ham exports were only about half of the 1932 volume, while live ho

exports for the 11-month period totaled only 95,450 head against the comparable 1932 figure of 177,860 head. At present, a somewhat larger outlet for hogs has been secured in the form of a contingent to Austria of 1,775 head weekly, with Austria also making some duty concessions, the hogs to weigh not more than 220 pounds. This contingent is in addition to a weekly contingent of 300 live hogs weighing over 330 pounds admitted duty free. A weekly contingent of 355 slaughtered hogs at a special duty rate also is provided for. Since last November, hogs slaughtered commercially bear a tax of 1.5 zloty (27.36 cents) per head, the money being used to support the grain market.

In the Baltic States, restricted bacon shipments to the British markets have resulted in an over-supply of hogs at home. In Lithuania the government is considering production control proposals, following the encouragement given producers during the first half of 1933 by the better prices obtained in Great Britain. Slaughter in Lithuania in 1933 was about 17.5 percent below the 1932 figures. Russia and Austria are being used as far as possible as outlets for hogs and hog products. A generally similar situation exists in Estonia. Some products are going to Russia, and negotiations are in progress with Belgium. Latvia hopes to consummate reciprocal trade agreements with Czechoslovalia to exchange pork for clothes and cloth.

Germany

The easier tendency of prices of foreign lard in Germany during recent weeks has been a source of concern to the fat control authorities. Prices of domestic products are well above those of last year, but the continued import of relatively large volumes of foreign lard has given rise to the expectation of closer regulation of such imports. Dollar depreciation has been an important element in the situation, with wholesale duty-paid prices of American pure lard at Hamburg falling from 79 marks per 50 kilograms in the week ended November 1, 1933 to 72 marks for the week ended January 10, 1934. At a retail price in Berlin of 1.69 marks per kilo, the rate prevailing around January 10, imported lard could compete easily with domestic lard and butter, and was not far out of line with prices of domestic margarine. During January, prices of American refined lard at Hamburg, duty unpaid, averaged lower in both marks and dollars than in December, the dollar average being $11.80 per 100 pounds.

The German Government continues to urge self-sufficiency in fats. As against a year ago, imports of lard and other edible fats and oils and oil-producing seeds have been reduced considerably. Domestic lard production has been increased through the production of more heavy fat hogs at well-maintained prices. The acreage of oil-seeds has been expanded. So far, the efforts to supply all fat needs from domestic production have fallen far short of the required result. There has been, however, some reduction in the consumption of fats in Germany. Lard imports in 1933 were 31.2 percent smaller than in 1932. The share of the imports supplied by the United States, however, increased from 73.1 percent in 1932 to 76.3 percent in 1933. Imports have tended upward in recent months, and from the consumer's viewpoint this is a distinct advantage during the winter months of seasonally high fat consumption.

Late in 1933 the current policies with respect to fats resulted in something of a shortage. Butter supplies were especially low as a result of reduced milk production following curtailment of imports of feed concentrates. The fat control monopoly relieved the situation somewhat by buying butter in Netherlands, Denmark and Finland, these purchases being in addition to the regularly established butter import quotas. It has been necessary also to increase slightly the monthly output of margarine. Since it was ordered that, during January and February 1934 margarine must contain 10 percent neutral lard rather than 5 percent, the production of that ingredient is expected to increase, and with it the demand for fat hogs. Neutral lard continues to be a relatively expensive product, costing margarine makers about 2.70 marks per kilo (46.55 cents per pound). Of that figure, the government pays 1,70 marks, using funds from a tax on sales of edible fats.

Other countries

Czechoslovakia has a deficiency in hogs and pork, and is interested, therefore, in increasing production. Hog numbers increased in 1933, and indications are that slaughter in 1934 will be larger than last year, especially in the later months. Imports of pork products were seriously curtailed last year, and it appears that consumption was below the level of recent years, in view of the smaller slaughter in 1933 as against 1932. Import contingents for January 1934 included about 7,000 hogs and 2,094,000 pounds of lard. The United States was allotted 220,000 pounds for January; Hungary, Denmark and Yugoslavia were the chief suppliers, and in the order named, Netherlands, Rumania and Bulgaria ranked after the United States. Reciprocal agreements are involved in most cases. Competition from margarine has suggested government action in Czechoslovakia to protect lard producers.

Recent re orts from Austria indicate an increasing number of hogs. The official attitude is that hog raising is a supplemental side of farming, and authorities have practically prohibited any farmer from engaging only in hog production. No farmer may possess more than 100 hogs without a special permit. Hog importations are largely dependent upon exchange agreements with Hungary and Yugoslavia for which Austria exchanges timber, cotton yarn and other products. Hog slaughter at Vienna in 1933 totaled 1,053,000 head against 1,042,000 head in 1932.

In Sweden hogs showed an increase late in 1933 which is attributed to the loss of British outlets for pork products. The government is concerned with both production regulation and disposal of the present surplus. Registered killings in 1933 were about the same as in 1932. In Finland, pork exports to Great Britain were larger in 1933 than the preceding year, but the 1934 figures are expected to be considerably smaller. Funds for the payment of export premiums have been appropriated but the system has not yet been put in operation.

Hogs and pork products: Indices of foreign supplies and demand

Country and item	Unit	Oct. - Dec. 1909-10 to 1913-14 average	1924-25 to 1928-29 average	1930	1931	1932	1933
UNITED KINGDOM:							
Production -							
Supplies, domestic fresh pork, London	1000 pounds		19,897	24,167	30,346	28,710	23,399
Imports -							
Bacon -							
Denmark	"	59,816	123,760	213,633	221,142	205,507	129,292
Irish F. State	"		17,921	9,566	11,377	7,311	8,833
United States	"	44,343	23,451	6,440	2,664	1,004	1,910
Canada	"	8,930	21,557	1,518	3,641	2,687	19,834
Others	"	11,247	38,198	63,235	85,558	105,075	71,132
Total	"	124,336	224,887	294,392	324,280	321,585	231,001
Ham, total	"	20,474	28,045	21,658	23,363	22,023	21,079
Lard, total	"	57,050	57,495	77,918	57,839	58,762	74,563
DENMARK:							
Exports -							
Bacon	"		123,103	203,177	226,383	202,657	138,968
CANADA:							
Slaughter -							
Hogs, inspected	1000's	450	738	498	753	707	765
GERMANY:							
Production -							
Hog receipts 14 cities	"		812	907	980	799	770
Hog slaughter 36 centers	"	1,111	1,010	1,148	1,329	1,081	1,057
Imports -	1000 pounds						
Bacon, total		868	5,932	5,324	11,677	9,369	8,500
Lard, total	"	54,037	51,197	34,322	55,766	65,992	39,707
UNITED STATES:							
Slaughter -							
Hogs, inspected	1000's	8,806	12,538	12,163	13,377	11,967	12,089
Exports -							
Bacon -	1000 pounds						
United Kingdom		32,530	14,570	5,862	1,921	864	714
Germany	"	729	2,698	138	1,105	372	1,415
Cuba	"	1,833	5,505	2,081	2,097	952	941
Total	"	45,196	33,236	11,188	6,779	4,736	7,144
Hams, shoulders -							
United Kingdom	"	30,316	30,981	17,038	9,979	13,108	14,910
Total	"	35,684	37,975	21,173	16,649	15,835	17,654
Lard -							
United Kingdom	"	39,297	51,563	65,963	56,281	59,508	75,683
Germany	"	34,485	43,221	15,383	43,759	43,035	33,625
Cuba	"	8,857	20,237	9,265	9,876	1,932	2,757
Netherlands	"	8,375	10,313	4,543	8,789	8,985	11,455
Total	"	112,662	174,048	129,062	144,350	139,370	152,153

Hogs and pork products: Foreign and domestic average prices per 100 pounds for the month indicated, and stocks at the end of each month

Item	1909-1913 average	1925-1929 average	Dec. 1932	Nov. 1933	Dec. 1933
	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars	Dollars
Prices -					
Hogs, Chicago, basis packers' and shippers quotations	7.50	9.76	3.04	4.04	3.25
Corn, Chicago, No. 3 Yellow	.98	1.46	.41	.79	.83
Hogs, heavy, Berlin, live weight	11.63	15.73	7.80	15.65	15.25
Potatoes, Breslau feeding	.35	1/ .54	2/ .26	.52	3/ .51
Barley, Leipzig	1.70	1/ 2.27	3/1.80	3.05	3.00
Lard -					
Chicago	10.71	14.00	5.28	6.98	6.25
Liverpool	12.10	13.89	3/6.88	7.14	7.20
Hamburg	11.92	14.54	8.39	14.14	12.07
Cured pork -					
Liverpool -					
American short cut green hams	14.30	25.16	4/9.16	16.79	17.63
American green bellies		21.27	4/7.47	14.74	14.35
Danish Wiltshire sides	14.10	23.07	4/9.60	17.63	17.62
Canadian green sides	13.34	1/20,97	4/8.61	15.53	15.58
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Stocks -					
United States -					
Processed pork 5/		555,885	490,850	524,763	627,323
Lard in cold storage		62,928	41,088	110,394	132,297

1/ Four-year average only.
2/ One week.
3/ Three weeks.
4/ Basis importer-to-wholesaler quotations.
5/ Dry salt cured and in process of cure, pickled, cured, and in process of cure, and frozen.

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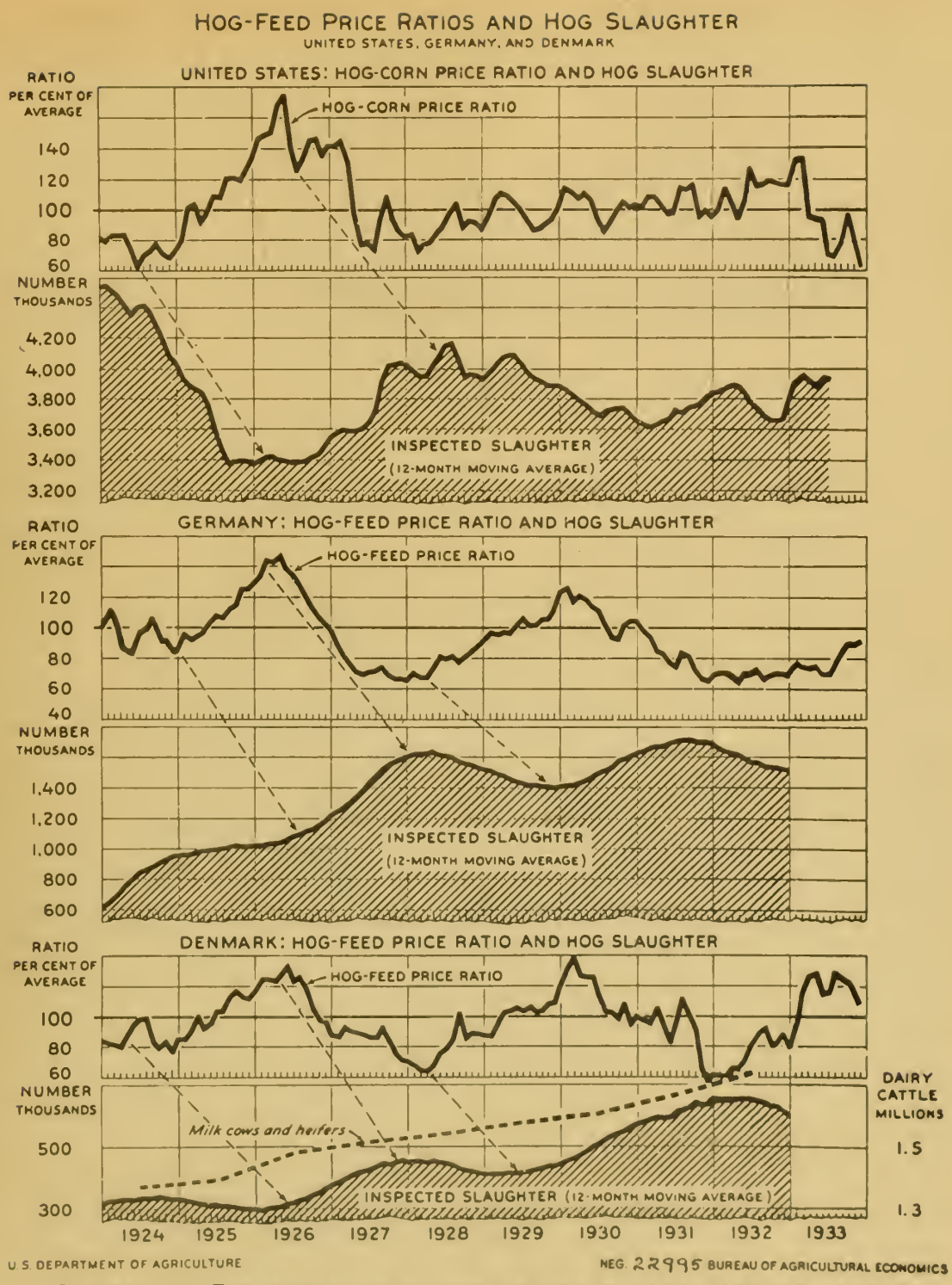

FIGURE 1 - THE RELATION OF HOG PRICES TO FEED PRICES CREATES CYCLICAL CHANGES IN HOG PRODUCTION IN THE UNITED STATES AND OTHER IMPORTANT HOG PRODUCING COUNTRIES. CHANGES IN THE HOG-FEED PRICE RATIO TEND TO CAUSE CHANGES IN HOG SLAUGHTER FROM ONE TO TWO YEARS LATER, AS INDICATED BY THE SLANTING ARROWS IN THE ABOVE FIGURE. IN DENMARK THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN HOG PRICES AND FEED PRICES IS NOW RELATIVELY FAVORABLE FOR HOG PRODUCTION, BUT IN THE UNITED STATES AND GERMANY IT IS UNFAVORABLE.

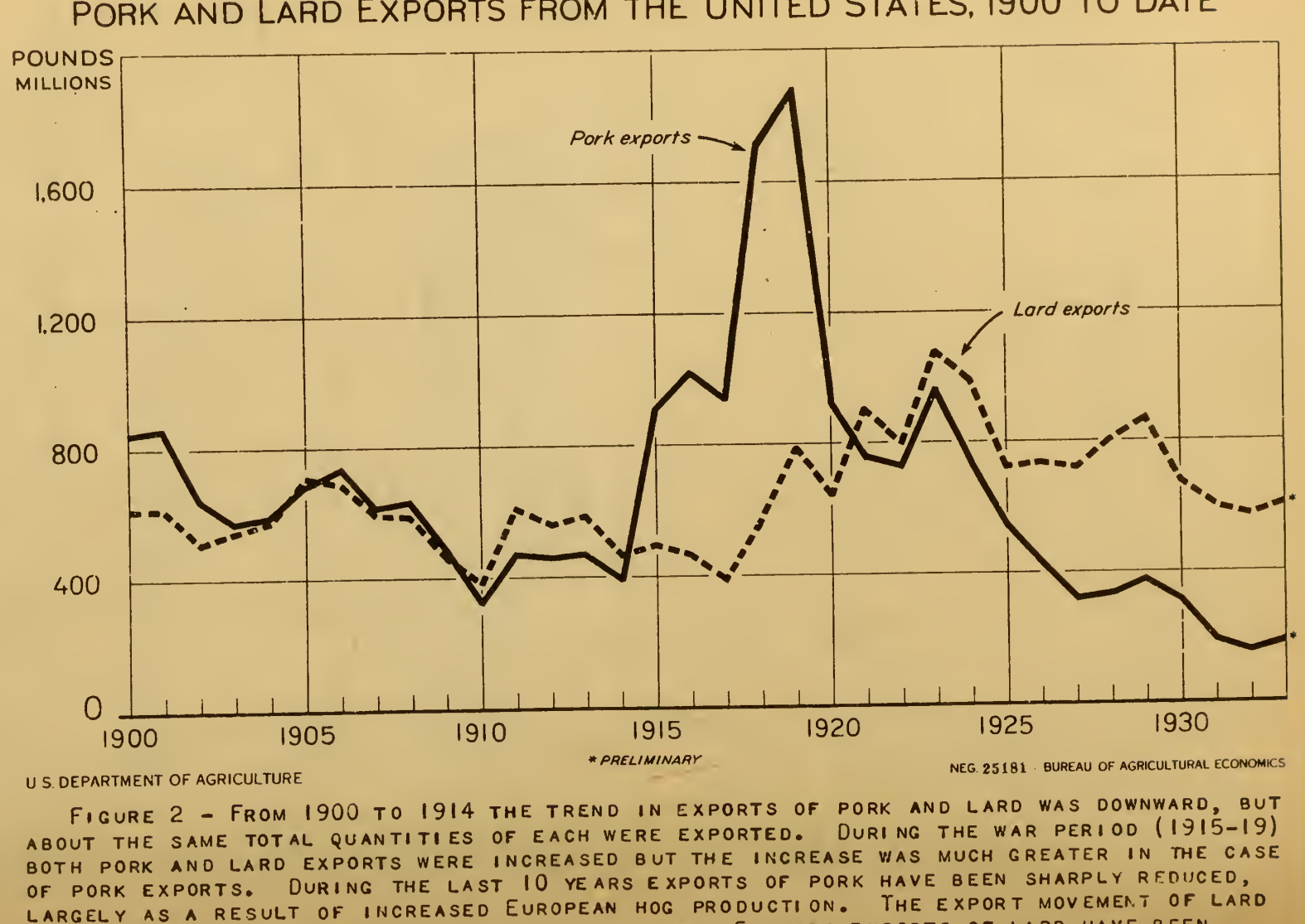

FIGURE 2 - FROM 1900 TO 1914 THE TREND IN EXPORTS OF PORK AND LARD WAS DOWNWARD, BUT ABOUT THE SAME TOTAL QUANTITIES OF EACH WERE EXPORTED. DURING THE WAR PERIOD (1915-19) BOTH PORK AND LARD EXPORTS WERE INCREASED BUT THE INCREASE WAS MUCH GREATER IN THE CASE OF PORK EXPORTS. DURING THE LAST 10 YEARS EXPORTS OF PORK HAVE BEEN SHARPLY REDUCED, LARGELY AS A RESULT OF INCREASED EUROPEAN HOG PRODUCTION. THE EXPORT MOVEMENT OF LARD HAS BEEN FAIRLY WELL MAINTAINED, AND IN THE LAST 5 YEARS EXPORTS OF LARD HAVE BEEN MUCH LARGER THAN THOSE OF PORK. BOTH EXPORTS OF PORK AND LARD INCREASED DURING 1933.

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